CLAIMS

I claim:

	1 Claim	
1 2 3 4	1. A method of anesthetizing a uterus, comprising the steps of: inserting a cannula having a tip through a cervical canal; positioning the cannula so that an aperture in the tip is proximate the fundus of the uterus; and delivering anesthetic through the cannula and out the aperture to the fundus.	
	2.	The method of claim 1 wherein positioning directs the tip towards a tubal ostia.
1 2 3	_	The method of claim 1 comprising the step of, after delivering the anesthetic out the re, permitting the anesthetic to flow out of the uterus alongside the cannula through the l canal.
	4.	The method of claim 1 wherein the anesthetic has a viscosity greater than that of water.
	5.	The method of claim 1 wherein the anesthetic is in the form of a gel.
1 2	6. family.	The method of claim 1 wherein the anesthetic comprises a compound of the lidocaine

A container/applicator apparatus for applying topical anesthetic to the middle to upper 1 7. corpus regions, the fundus, and the tubal ostia of a uterus, comprising: 2 a reservoir for containing anesthetic and having a reservoir outlet for releasing the anesthetic; 3 4 and 5 a hollow tube having a proximal end for receiving the anesthetic released from the outlet, 6 7 a distal end with a tip, a length between the proximal end and the tip sufficient to extend through a vagina and a 8 9 cervical canal into a uterus to its fundus, and at least one aperture in the tip for discharging the anesthetic from the tube. 10 The apparatus of claim 7 wherein the tube has an axial cross-section sufficiently small to 1 8. 2 allow fluid to flow from the uterus alongside the tube through the cervical canal. The apparatus of claim 7 wherein the tube, from midway between the ends towards the 9. 1 2 distal end, is curved. The apparatus of claim 7 wherein the tube is flexible. 10. The apparatus of claim 7 wherein the tip is blunt. 11. The apparatus of claim 7 wherein the tip has an aperture across the axis of the tube and at 1 12. least one aperture along the axis of the tube. 2

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The apparatus of claim 7 wherein the anesthetic has a viscosity greater than that of water.